

## CNI end of year report Yell – Year to 31 March 2024

### Capital

1. **Cullivoe Galley Shed.** The Cullivoe Up Helly Aa committee wanted to bring this building up to net-zero standard through the Let's Do Net Zero scheme; the building did not meet insulation standards to qualify. We provided funding to insulate to the required degree, allowing this funding to be accessed. The building is now fully insulated, and work to fit heat pumps, solar panels and battery storage is ongoing.
  - i. **GHG reductions:** This will soon be Shetland's first net-zero Galley Shed; net emissions will be minimal. Energy, including heating, is Yell's second-largest source of emissions after LULUCF at 8.9 (Community Climate Action Plan, 2023).
  - ii. **Societal and environmental benefit:** The building can provide a fine example of the benefit of insulation, air-to-air heat pumps and solar power with battery backup. Groups that meet and work here will now have a warm space to do so.
  - iii. **Match funding:** CNI Yell provided £15,384.83 which was matched with £15,384.83 from North Yell Development Council, £13,187 from Shetland Islands Council, and £293.03 from the Galley Shed. This project will gain a further £24,000 from Let's Do Net Zero.
  - iv. **Policy lessons:** The Let's Do Net Zero fund is of good value but many community buildings in similar condition to the Cullivoe Galley Shed cannot qualify for this funding, without additional insulation being installed. This seems counterproductive and may lead to renewables either being installed in unsuitable buildings or not being installed at all. Consideration should be given to including insulation under the Let's Do Net Zero Fund.

**2. Reuse centre/scrap store.** We helped purchase two shipping containers that will be used to store used white goods, furniture, electrical and other items, as well as a variety of equipment in order that the Men's Shed volunteers can dismantle, recycle, repurpose and upcycle. Previously, such items had to be shipped to Lerwick or further south for recycling or correct disposal.

**i. GHG Reductions:** Waste is estimated at 306 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per year in Yell; this facility will reduce road journeys and wasted goods, and lead to repurposing and reuse which will reduce demand for new replacement items.

**ii. Societal and Environmental benefit:** Upcycled goods will be available to the community, and the Men's shed can gain income to improve their sustainability. The Men's Shed offers a great opportunity for all generations in the community to work together and share skills.

**iii. Match funding:** CNI Yell provided £11,943.02 grant which was matched by £11,942.69 from Community Led Local Development and 30p from the Men's Shed.

**3. Resilience Hub network.** Weather events have often left Yell vulnerable in the past – from transport networks to electricity supply to communications. Telephone links can no longer be relied on in power cuts, and extreme weather is becoming more frequent. We designated seven Resilience Hubs across the island, using seven local Halls – Cullivoe, Sellafirth, Mid-Yell, East Yell, Burravoe, North Ness and West Sandwick. We were able to leverage in additional funding to go along with our funding to purchase emergency generators, VHF communications equipment, emergency rations portable heating, lighting and sleeping equipment to allow these halls to both open as resilience hubs and distribute necessary equipment in the community. In addition a resilience plan for the island and households has been developed, which includes prioritised welfare checks on all residents in times of emergency.

- i. **Societal and environmental benefit:** The halls are the hub of community life; they are the ideal choice for a place of refuge for the community when weather events make us vulnerable. Yell communities can be cut off in every way during weather events and last winter most of the island was left without transport, electricity or any means of communicating with the outside world. This underlined the societal necessity of these resilience hubs.
- ii. **Match funding:** In addition to CNI Yell funding of £97,583.60, £38,490.54 was secured from the Coastal Community Fund and £10,000 from SSE for this project.

**4. Growing Areas/Polycrubs.** A Community Consultation carried out during the production of our Action Plan confirmed that there was a desire for more local food production and community-owned polytunnels. We identified five areas in the island that would be suitable for growing areas – Cullivoe, Sellafirth, Mid Yell, Men’s Shed Mid Yell, Ulsta and Burravoe. Northmavine Community Development Company build polycrubs reusing materials from the salmon farming industry, and it is these that we will purchase. Planning permission has just been obtained for the first site, in Cullivoe; and we have a site-plan almost ready to submit for Sellafirth. Given issues and delays with obtaining planning permission a phase 2 project will be required going forward.

- i. **GHG reductions:** More local growing should equate to less food-miles; this will be difficult to quantify until we see which crops are growing most successfully.
- ii. **Societal and environmental benefit:** Producing locally will aid food security – shelves can be laid bare by a few days of bad weather. The growing areas will also be good for community interaction.
- iii. **Match Funding:** In addition to CNI Yell funding of £35,088.55, £56.45 was secured from the North Yell Development Council for this project.

- iv. Policy lessons:** Planning permission took 5 months to be granted for our Cullivoe site. Given issues and delays with obtaining planning permission a phase 2 project will be required going forward for this and other sites. This also shows that single year capital funding which is required to be spent within the financial year it is awarded can limit project outcomes.

A detailed breakdown of how the £160,000 of capital funding awarded to CNI Yell in the financial year 23/24 was utilised is set out below. This shows that £89,354.84 of additional funding was levered in directly to projects funded, giving an overall investment in Yell of just under £250,000. In addition, additional funding of £24,000 can now be levered in from Let's Do Net Zero, bring the overall investment total in the island to £273,354.84.

Projects	CNI Yell	SIC	NYDC	Galley Shed	CLLD	Mens Shed	CCF	SSE	Total
Galley Shed	15,384.83	13,187.00	15,384.83	293.03					<b>44,249.69</b>
Scrap Store	11,943.02				11,942.69	0.30			<b>23,886.01</b>
Resilience Hubs	97,583.60						38,490.54	10,000.00	<b>146,074.14</b>
Polycrubs	35,088.55		56.45						<b>35,145.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>160,000.00</b>	<b>13,187.00</b>	<b>15,441.28</b>	<b>293.03</b>	<b>11,942.69</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>38,490.54</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	<b>249,354.84</b>

### Resource spending

- Details of staffing costs – 4 staff members from North Yell Development Council worked on the CNI Yell project over the year. Total hours claimed for were 1,858.81 which was just over 1 FTE. However, this does not cover all NYDC staff time spent on the project. Total staff costs claimed for were £50,742.28, including admin overhead.
- Details of non-staffing related costs – this included revenue expenses relating to the growing areas project; meeting room hire; promotion and marketing of tunnels at both ends of Yell; CDO recruitment expenses; marketing materials; expenditure relating to the provision of skip services on the island; bus hire

and transportation costs, and fees relating to recycling/upcycling classes on the island. Total direct non-staffing costs for the year were £22,825.67.

- Upskilling and training has been provided both through conferences attended and classes provided on-island. In addition, all NYDC staff have/are undertaking the Climate Solutions Professional qualification from the Royal Scottish Geographical Society.
  - Capacity building has been brought about through the capital projects undertaken particularly resilience hubs and scrap store.
- Travel expenses for the year were £2,493.52 included attending the All Energy conference, Community Energy Scotland Conference, and CNI CDO meeting in Greater Cambrae. Travel for Yell school children to an exhibition of work using recycled materials by the late Dr Mike McDonnell is also included in this total.

A detailed breakdown of how the £76,061.47 of revenue funding awarded to CNI Yell in the financial year 23/24 was utilised is set out below.

	Apr 23	May 23	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sep 23	Oct 23
<b>Total Hours</b>	131.43	147.40	166.00	166.00	166.00	110.00	162.00
<b>Staff</b>	£2,476.68	£3,000.00	£3,634.60	£3,634.60	£3,634.60	£3,095.60	£3,559.40
<b>T&amp;S</b>	£390.38	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£1,032.14	£ -
<b>Direct Costs</b>	£132.94	£ -	£200.00	£3,054.08	£225.00	£2,300.51	£ -
<b>Total</b>	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	£3,834.60	£6,688.68	£3,859.60	£6,428.25	£3,559.40
	Oct 23	Nov 23	Dec 23	Jan 24	Feb 24	Mar 24	Total
<b>Total Hours</b>	162.00	162.00	162.00	162.00	162.00	162.00	1858.81
<b>Staff</b>	£3,559.40	£8,838.95	£4,449.21	£4,806.21	£4,806.21	£4,806.21	£50,742.28
<b>T&amp;S</b>	£ -	£ -	£ -	£210.00	£861.00	£ -	£2,493.52
<b>Direct Costs</b>	£ -	£5,053.67	£4,529.40	£390.00	£4,136.07	£2,804.00	£22,825.67
<b>Total</b>	£3,559.40	£13,892.62	£8,978.61	£5,406.21	£9,803.28	£7,610.21	£76,061.47

## Community engagement

- **Number of steering committee meetings:** The Steering group met on June 1, Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>, Nov 6<sup>th</sup>, Jan 18<sup>th</sup> and March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

- **Other public engagement activities:** Our CDO (Reuben, then Barry) regularly attended North Yell Development Council directors' meetings as well as reporting to Yell Community Council meetings on request; attended SIC community development drop-in sessions throughout Yell; weekly community lunch in Cullivoe; community engagement events with Home Energy Scotland; blue carbon information events with NAFC UHI; helped set up a local marine data gathering group and 78 electricity monitors distributed in the community.

### **Stakeholder engagement**

Worked with NAFC UHI and University of Potsdam to secure Phd student to examine blue carbon around Yell. Worked with CES to develop a more detailed peat assessment for Yell. Had a stand at and gave a presentation Shetland Islands Council Climate Festival.